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January 13, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents
 PO Box 1450
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Art Unit 3652
Mail Stop Amendment

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
 Application No. 10/040,375; Filed: January 9, 2002
 For: **Apparatus for Transferring and Loading a Reticle With a Robotic Reticle End-Effecter**
 Inventors: Friedman *et al.*
 Our Ref: 1857.0690000

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038);
2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a);
3. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
4. Return postcard.

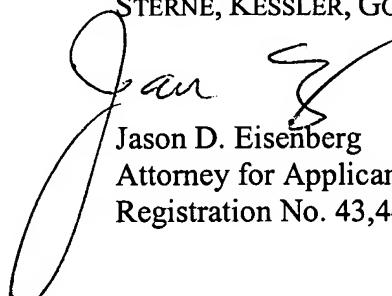
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
January 13, 2005
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.


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JDE/lvt
Enclosure

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